

COURSE	LAW 343-1 Building Democracy: A Legal History of the Right to Vote (Cross-listed with HSTR 519)
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Dr. Andrew Buck
TERM OFFERED	Fall 2023
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the legal history of the right to vote in the common law world, from the Putney Debates of the 17th century through to present-day legal and political disputes over access to universal suffrage. The course will examine the relationship between the right to vote, the rule of law and democratic governance, and trace the debate over and fight for the right to vote as it affected those without property, Indigenous peoples, freed slaves, women, and those groups in society long denied the right to vote. By examining both law and history, this course will demonstrate the legal and historical relationship between the right to vote, the rule of law, and democratic governance in contemporary Canada and beyond.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The reading materials for this course will be set out in the Course Outline, which will be handed out at the beginning of the course. Classes will comprise a mixture of lectures, class discussion, and student presentation.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY (Subject to change)

Research Essay 50%

Research Portfolio 20%

Critical Review 20%

Class Participation 10%

Note: There is no final exam.

June 2023

¹ The information in this document is provided for course registration purposes only and is **subject to change**. More detailed course information about course content and evaluation will be provided upon the commencement of the course. Students seeking additional information about the course prior to its commencement may contact the instructor or, if no instructor is listed, Law Student Services (law.studentservices@uvic.ca).